

TRIPOLI 00000741 P CO 19-SEP-08 MINISTER OF ECONOMY POSITIVE ON BILATERAL ENGAGEMENT, CONCERNED ABOUT DOMESTIC REFORM PLANS [8046536]From: CBPC  
Sent: Friday, September 19, 2008 2:24 PM  
To: EACTTripoli  
Subject: TRIPOLI 00000741 P CO 19-SEP-08 MINISTER OF ECONOMY POSITIVE ON BILATERAL ENGAGEMENT, CONCERNED ABOUT DOMESTIC REFORM PLANS [8046536]

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 TRIPOLI 000741

DEPT OF COMMERCE FOR NATE MASON; DEPT OF ENERGY FOR GINA  
ERIKSON

E.O. 12958: DECL: 9/18/2018

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SUBJECT: MINISTER OF ECONOMY POSITIVE ON BILATERAL ENGAGEMENT, CONCERNED ABOUT DOMESTIC REFORM PLANS TRIPOLI 00000741 001.2 OF 002

CLASSIFIED BY: Chris Stevens, Charge d'affaires, U.S. Embassy Tripoli. REASON: 1.4 (d)

[1](#)1. (C) Summary: During a September 16 meeting, Dr. Ali al-Issawy, the Secretary of the General People's Committee for the Economy, Trade and  
WELCOMING A/S HERNANDEZ

[1](#)2. (SBU) Minister al-Issawy said he looked forward to the planned visit of Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Director General of the U.S. a  
TIFA: WAITING FOR THE END OF RAMADAN

[1](#)3. (SBU) Al-Issawy said he looked forward to finalizing the Trade and Investment Framework Agreement (TIFA). He suggested that his staff work  
PLANS IN PROGRESS ON OIL WEALTH DISTRIBUTION

[1](#)4. (C) Referring to Muammar al-Qadhafi's recent national day speech, the CDA asked about plans to distribute Libya's oil revenue directly to  
"LIBYA HAS A CULTURE OF RENT, NOT WORK"

[1](#)5. (C) Minister al-Issawy commented that some Libyans were already dreaming about using the money they will eventually receive to live in Tur

[1](#)6. (C) On the other hand, the Minister noted a wealth distribution plan could smooth the way for greater liberalization of the economy, espec  
MOVING AHEAD ON PRIVATIZATION AND LOOKING FOR U.S. PARTNERS IN HIGHER EDUCATION

[1](#)7. (SBU) Minister al-Issawy said plans for privatizing key sectors of the economy, including health, education, utilities, and transportator

[1](#)8. (SBU) On higher education, in particular, the Minister said they were interested in joint ventures with U.S. universities, such as MIT. 7  
.AND ALSO LOOKING TO LEARN FROM THE U.S. MORTGAGE CRISIS TRIPOLI 00000741 002.2 OF 002

[1](#)9. (SBU) The Minister also asked if the Embassy could provide an expert to speak about the mortgage situation in the U.S. since Libya plans t  
STEVENS